

A Regular Meeting was held February 17, 2026 at Hutchinson Hall, Newark Valley at 7:00 P.M.
The following Board members were present:

Present:

Kathleen Grant, Supervisor
Warren Smith, Councilmember
Joseph Tomazin, Jr. Councilmember
Lucy Johnson, Councilmember

Absent:

Brett Walter, Councilmember

Also Present:

Highway Superintendent Joe Tennant, Jim Marzen, Karen McMullen; Attorney to the Town,
Code Enforcement Officer Dan Cheresnowski, Chris Dyer

Meeting Called to Order

Supervisor Grant called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Grant led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Resolution #23 -2026

**Approval of Board Minutes for January 20th and
February 3, 2026**

On a motion offered by Councilmember Smith, and seconded by Councilmember Johnson, the
Town Board approved the Board Minutes for January 20th, and February 3, 2026.

Councilmember Smith - AYE
Councilmember Tomazin – AYE
Councilmember Johnson - AYE
Supervisor Grant – AYE

Motion Carried

Privilege of Floor

Supervisor Grant closed privilege of the floor.

Highway Report

Highway Superintendent Joe Tennant discussed that they got the truck from the County. Would
like a resolution to advertise the 2005 & 2007 Volvo Town Trucks on auction international to get
them sold. They have everything off the 2006 that was to be surplus. Lantz's are coming to see

what they will give us for it. Highway Superintendent Joe Tennant also discussed that he found a paver in Syracuse, price on it is \$14,500.00, and wants to go look at it or even purchase it.

Resolution # 24-2026

**Authorize the Highway Superintendent to
Purchase Used Paver up to \$14,500.00.**

On a motion offered by Councilmember Smith, and seconded by Councilmember Tomazin, the Town Board approved the Highway Superintendent to purchase used paver up to \$14,500.00.

Councilmember Smith - AYE

Councilmember Tomazin – AYE

Councilmember Johnson - AYE

Supervisor Grant – AYE

Motion Carried

Resolution # 25-2026

**Authorize the Highway Superintendent to
Advertise on Auction International to
Surplus the 2005 & 2007 Volvo Trucks**

On a motion offered by Councilmember Smith, and seconded by Councilmember Johnson, the Town Board approved the Highway Superintendent to advertise on Auction International to Surplus the 2005 & 2007 Volvo Trucks.

Councilmember Smith - AYE

Councilmember Tomazin – AYE

Councilmember Johnson - AYE

Supervisor Grant – AYE

Motion Carried

Highway Superintendent Joe Tennant also discussed that he had someone come for an interview to work for him. Was also mentioned that may need to change the qualifications to get some younger ones to apply and train them to get license. Councilmember Tomazin asked Highway Superintendent Joe Tennant if he thought they could do a 4-man crew as that is what they have been doing. Highway Superintendent Joe Tennant thought possibly but in May they may need 1 or 2 Part-Timers. Highway Superintendent Joe Tennant had a memo on time off of work and regarded asking for 6 weeks off and it is in their busy time and wanted the Councilmembers and Supervisor Grant to review. Supervisor Grant and Councilmembers had decided that is at his discretion. Highway Superintendent Joe Tennant also discussed that he will be going to Albany March 4, 2026 for Amnesty Day to see about CHIPS money. If the weather keeps up, they will be able to start brushing and chipping. Highway Superintendent Joe Tennant has two sealed bids for the tractor that was advertised to sell. First bid was from Mark Keith for \$2,601.00, the second was from Zeb Patterson & Nathan Lawton for \$2,500.00. Highway Superintendent Joe Tennant that the town hour change has been working out well.

New Business

Financial Report

Resolution # 26-2026

Approve January Financial Report

On a motion offered by Councilmember Tomazin, and seconded by Councilmember Smith, the Town Board approved the financial report for January.

Councilmember Smith - AYE

Councilmember Tomazin – AYE

Councilmember Johnson - AYE

Supervisor Grant – AYE

Motion Carried

Supervisor Grant discussed that herself and Councilmember Tomazin met with Spectrum to discuss phone service from them and if they can do a better price than what we are paying now for frontier. They have a product manager and design team and they will have a proposal next week for us. Will also include going to the Historian Building. Highway Superintendent Joe Tennant also discussed that we need to get a fire alarm in the new Highway Building.

Supervisor Grant discussed that she attended the Village meeting and had asked Councilmembers if we paid part of the Village lights. Was discussed that NYSEG had changed the bulbs at one point a while ago. Town may pay for 4 or 5 lights. Supervisor Grant discussed that the Village Barn is all cleaned up and they were very thankful that the town had stored their equipment while they made other arrangements for storage. The Village had asked Supervisor Grant if we had a wood chipper, she didn't realize that we did. Supervisor Grant had discussed an email from Bradley & Michelle Williams with a letter attached that would like all towns to get on board as it was regarding NYSEG. Supervisor Grant had said that she received the same from Cincinnati.

Supervisor Grant discussed alcohol being sold in Town (Bowling Alley) Jim Marzen was asking as he wants correct information on it all and how it all works and how many signatures are needed. Councilmember Smith explained that the Town Law would have to be changed as it would need to be re- written as the wording is confusing.

Supervisor Grant briefly discussed attending training on grant writing on March 19th & 20th and would be \$96 a night it is in Amherst Buffalo. The Cost of training is \$525. Councilmembers discussed that grants can be written for us for free and that there is a lot going on at the present and felt it would not be beneficial. Supervisor Grant Could reach out to some other Supervisors and previous ones that have done grants. Was also discussed letter received that grants are open. Supervisor Grant briefly discussed her ride along with Verg in the plow truck in the last storm, she said it was a great experience to see how it all went.

Old Business

Supervisor Grant discussed the furnace contract that they would be checked in the spring and the fall to keep up on them. The contract hadn't been received to go over. The thermostats are all installed.

Karen McMullen, Attorney to the Town discussed the Solar Farm PILOT and they aren't going to have one, it was sent with signatures. It is another solar farm name. Tioga CSG LLC is who the decommission is with. New Energy can sign even if it needs amending, need to amend PILOT and Decommission.

Resolution #27-2026

Authorize Supervisor Grant to Sign PILOT for Payment in Lieu of Taxes Agreement For Solar Energy System Between Town of Newark Valley, County of Tioga Newark Valley School District and New Energy Equity, LLC as Agent for Project Owner, Tioga CSG 1, LLC

On a motion offered by Councilmember Tomazin, and seconded by Councilmember Smith, the Town Board approved Supervisor Grant to Sign PILOT for Payment in Lieu of Taxes Agreement for Solar Energy System Between Town of Newark Valley, County of Tioga Newark Valley School District and New Energy Equity, LLC as Agent for Project Owner, Tioga CSG 1, LLC.

Councilmember Smith - AYE
Councilmember Tomazin – AYE
Councilmember Johnson - AYE
Supervisor Grant – AYE
Motion Carried

Supervisor Grant received email from Aarah Richards regarding the Website, Highway Superintendent Joe Tennant discussed that he would like to be able have it where it can be put on the website if there was a road closure. Aarah needs .gov she has sent links. Supervisor Grant briefly discussed that Lindsey has accepted being out Town Attorney.

Department & Council Reports

Code Enforcement

Supervisor Grant discussed briefly asking Code Enforcement Officer Dan Cheresnowski his thoughts and ideas on the fees, he feels that they need to be raised. Code Enforcement Officer

Dan Cheresnowski had said that he has coverage to fill in for him the month of March, it is Doug from Tioga. Code Enforcement Officer Dan Cheresnowski discussed that it has not been really busy, and right now he is sending out letters for fire inspections. Code Enforcement Officer Dan Cheresnowski started his class hours for Code training, and has sent out violations for junk cars on 38b, will get on David Aingwoth on his junk cars on Murphy Lane.

Dog Control

No Report

Council Members & Committees

Planning Board

Jim Marzen discussed his handout that the planning board had been working on with the Junk/Solid Waste/ Un-Safe Structures. Also, could possibly put on the website how many tickets have been issued and was discussed getting back to doing the newsletter.

Councilmember Tomazin discussed a concern with the pig farm and the water situation as he feels it is going to get worse and that people could run out of water, they are drilling wells all over and even across the road to draw it across on 38b. was said the County doesn't want to hear about it. Was said to talk to the DEC. Would need to know the amount of water they use which would be a large amount. They have the farm bureau behind them. Councilmember Tomazin had spoke with someone in the water business and they are concerned it could be a problem. Code Enforcement Officer Dan Cheresnowski discussed that is why they are getting water from the Village as the water table is low.

General Bills

Resolution # 28-2026

General Bills

On a motion offered by Councilmember Tomazin, and seconded by Councilmember Smith, the Town Board authorizes the payment of General Bills A20 to A48, inclusive in the amount of \$48,992.71.

Councilmember Smith - AYE
Councilmember Tomazin – AYE
Councilmember Johnson - AYE
Supervisor Grant – AYE
Motion Carried

Highway Bills

Resolution #29 -2026

Highway Bills

On a motion offered by Councilmember Smith, and seconded by Councilmember Johnson, the Town Board authorizes the payment of Highway Bill Vouchers H9 to H17, inclusive in the amount of \$38,827.02.

Councilmember Smith - AYE
Councilmember Tomazin – AYE
Councilmember Johnson - AYE
Supervisor Grant – AYE

Motion Carried

Executive Session

Supervisor Grant discussed that they need to go into executive session to discuss a personnel issue.

Resolution #30-2026

Enter Executive Session at 8:54 pm

On a motion offered by Councilmember Smith, and seconded by Councilmember Johnson, the Town Board approved to enter the executive session at 8:54 pm.

Councilmember Smith - AYE
Councilmember Tomazin – AYE
Councilmember Johnson - AYE
Supervisor Grant – AYE

Motion Carried

Resolution #31-2026

Close Executive Session at 9:30 pm

On a motion offered by Councilmember Smith, and seconded by Councilmember Tomazin, the Town Board approved to exit the executive session at 9:30 pm.

Councilmember Smith - AYE
Councilmember Tomazin – AYE
Councilmember Johnson - AYE
Supervisor Grant – AYE

Motion Carried

Budget Transfer

Resolution #32-2026

Budget Transfer

On a motion offered by Councilmember Smith, and seconded by Councilmember Tomazin, the Town Board approved the following Budget Transfer:

Transfer:

\$1,213.31 FROM A1990.4 Contingency TO A1910.4 Unallocated Insurance

Councilmember Smith - AYE

Councilmember Tomazin – AYE

Councilmember Johnson - AYE

Supervisor Grant – AYE

Motion Carried

On a motion offered by Councilmember Smith, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

The next Scheduled Meeting is scheduled for March 3, 2026 at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lora L Corson

Town Clerk